

Message Text

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73

ORIGIN AID-54

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EA-11 AGR-20 COME-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-15 IGA-02 EB-11

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DRAFTED BY SA/ C: GKAMENS: REF

05/11/73: EXT 23972

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EA/ TB: JDEXTER (DRAFT)

EA/ LC: JMURPHY (DRAFT)

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TO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 091534

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAGR, EAID, CB

SUBJECT: RICE SITUATION AND THAI RICE PURCHASES

REFS: A. PHNOM PENH 4440

B. PHNOM PENH 4441

C. BANGKOK 7395

1. WE WELL AWARE OF URGENCY OF CAMBODIAN RICE SITUATION
AND ARE EXPLORING A NUMBER OF POSSIBILITIES, INCLUDING
THOSE RAISED IN YOUR CABLES AS WELL AS A KHMER REQUEST TO
JAPANESE GOVERNMENT.

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2. RE U. S. ROLEVIS- A- VIS THAT GOVERNMENT SELLING ADDITIONAL RICE TO CAMBODIA, WE BELIEVE THAT RECENT HIGH LEVEL DEMARCHES INCLUDING THOSE OF AMBASSADORS GODLEY AND UNGER DEMONSTRATE SERIOUS AND HIGH LEVEL USG CONCERN. WE ARE PREPARED TO CONSIDER RAISING MATTER WITH THAI AMBASSADOR TO U. S. IF YOU BELIEVE THAT WOULD HELP. WE HAVE NO REASON TO DISAGREE WITH EMBASSY BANGKOK' S ASSESSMENT IN REF. C. WE DO NOT SEE WHAT IS TO BE GAINED FROM ATTEMPTING NEGOTIATE DIRECTLY FOR RICE WITH RTG, SINCE THERE IS NO QUESTION RE USG FINANCING OF THAI RICE. COULD YOU ELABORATE ON WHAT YOU HAVE IN MIND?

3. MEANWHILE, WE WILL PURSUE FEASIBILITY OF YOUR PROPOSALS, BUT CONTINUE TO BELIEVE MAJOR EMPHASIS HAS TO BE ON GKR SECURING THAI RICE AND CONVOYING ITS RICE FROM BATTAMBANG. RUSH

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NMAFVVZCZ

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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